

CONTEMPO Series: Contemporary Piano Repertoire for the Beginner

Iully Araújo Benassi

Prof. Dr. Fátima Corvisier

**Faculty of de Philosophy, Sciences and Letters of Ribeirão Preto
University of São Paulo - USP**

Research communication

Introduction

Knowing and performing contemporary music is essential in the educational process of a piano student, however it still represents a small amount of repertoire known and assigned by piano teachers, especially when it comes to the first stages of piano study. This communication presents the results of a scientific initiation research project on contemporary piano repertoire for beginners. The research focused on the *Contempo* series, whose purpose is to introduce the music idioms of the 20th century to beginner piano students.

Development and results

The *Contempo* series volumes 1 and 2 present 36 piano pieces created by several composers; these works were selected and organized by Mary Elizabeth Clark. Each one of these compositions explores one or more elements of the contemporary music writing, explaining the theory needed to understand the specific language/element addressed. In addition, these pieces exercise the essential musical and technical abilities and skills necessary to the development of a beginning piano student.

Conclusion

The analysis of the *Contempo* series revealed a very rich work that besides the elements of contemporary music explore all abilities and indispensable competences to be developed in elementary/intermediate piano teaching.

Biographies:

Iully Araujo Benassi – began her piano studies with professor Gustavo Mérida in *Escola Geraldo Filme* in São João da Boa Vista, SP. In her first year as a piano student, won the revelation student award. Ms. Benassi has participated in many master classes with renowned pianists including, Ian Hobson (UK), Asami Hagiwara (Japan), Jani Parsons (Canada), Geoffrey Haydon (USA), Leslie Spatz (USA) e Wiston Choi (USA). Iully Benassi has already performed in many solo and chamber music recitals, in addition to playing as the pianist of *USP-Filarmônica* Orchestra. In the pedagogical scope, she works as a piano teacher at the *Centro Municipal de Artes “Bezerra de Menezes” – CEMART*, in the city of Barretos. Currently is a student in the Bachelor in Piano Performance Program at the University of São Paulo, at Ribeirão Preto, under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Fátima Corvisier.

Fátima Monteiro Corvisier - graduated with honors (Golden Medal Prize) from the School of Music of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. In 2009, Fátima Corvisier received her Doctor of Music degree awarded by the University of São Paulo (USP). Fátima Corvisier has performed as a soloist with many orchestras in

Brazil, including the São Paulo State Symphonic Orchestra, conducted by Eleazar de Carvalho. As a solo and chamber music recitalist Dr. Corvisier has performed in many concert halls throughout Brazil, the United States and Europe. Her most significant prizes in piano competitions include the first prize in the Dirk Bovendorp National Piano Competition and the third prize in the III Eldorado Music Award. Fátima Corvisier is one of the founders of *Corvisier Piano Duo*, which has been recognized as one of the foremost Brazilian piano duos by its remarkable ensemble, rhythmic vitality, and intense musicianship. Fátima and Fernando Corvisier's partnership has taken *Duo Corvisier* to perform in many cities in Brazil and abroad (Argentina, United States, Portugal, Spain, Austria, England). Since 2004, Fátima Corvisier is a faculty member at the Department of Music of the Faculty of Philosophy, Sciences and Letters of Ribeirão Preto, University of São Paulo (FFCLRP-USP), where she teaches Piano and Piano Pedagogy. As a researcher, she has been intensively involved in national and international Congresses and Conferences presenting papers on Piano Pedagogy and Performance Practices on Piano Duet Repertoire. Fátima Corvisier is a member of the National Music Academy in Rio de Janeiro, since 2012.